

was passed, it was hotly contested, and rightly so. The Medicare Modernization Act represented one of the largest expansions of Medicare since its creation.

However, what cannot be contested is part D's success. Premiums are far below projections—less than half the \$61 monthly premium originally projected. Benefits packages are actually expanding, giving seniors more coverage and options. The CBO has confirmed that the increased usage of prescription drugs by seniors is offset by savings in medical services.

Medicare part D is keeping our seniors healthy for less, and they love it: 96 percent say their coverage works well.

The benefits of competition, prevention, and consumer choice have been tested and proven. It begs the question: When will we apply these principles to other Federal health care programs? And why is the President trying to cripple part D through price controls and new taxes when it is performing well?

□ 1230

RECOGNIZING THE RECENT OPENING OF FOREST HILL MEMORIAL PARK

(Mr. VEASEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the recent opening of the Forest Hill Memorial Park in the 33rd Congressional District. The park was opened for all citizens to honor the military service contributions of our men and women in uniform.

This special memorial park includes the engraved names of the local brave men and women who served in all branches of the U.S. military. There's also a monument honoring local prisoners of war and missing soldiers, and a monument honoring Forest Hill public safety officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty.

I attended the dedication ceremony for the park on Memorial Day, and I can personally attest to the fact that it truly honors the veterans of Forest Hill and the surrounding communities across the United States. I commend Forest Hill elected officials who worked tirelessly to bring such a park to the north Texas community.

CONSEQUENCES OF OBAMACARE

(Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight the terrible consequences ObamaCare is having on working families. In my district, Zionsville Community School Corporation was forced to cut hours for substitute teachers, instructional assistants, and other staff because of the employer mandates.

Recently, one Indiana school administrator who had just cut coaches', aides', and assistants' hours asked, "Did they really think about the seventh- and eighth-grade basketball coach or the substitute teacher or the part-time instructional aide" when they wrote this law?

Schools shouldn't be forced to cut back on services for kids because Washington is too stubborn to roll back a failed initiative.

While 12 million Americans are still looking for a job, schools are cutting hours and, consequently, people's pay. A recent study by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce found that ObamaCare is the number one concern for small businesses, and soon our children and families will learn it's the number one concern for school systems.

Mr. Speaker, this law is hurting our students, our school systems, its workers, and our economy. We must repeal it.

STUDENT LOANS

(Mr. MATHESON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MATHESON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my support for American students.

Sierra Curian is a sophomore studying biology and chemistry at the University of Utah. Monday, I had the privilege of sitting down with Sierra and several Utah college students to talk about their experiences and why it is so important that Congress come together to solve the current student loan debate.

Not surprisingly, Sierra and the other students I spoke with are very concerned about the prospect of student loan interest rates doubling on July 1. What impressed me the most was listening to the aspirations of these students, many of which I promised to share here on the floor of the House of Representatives.

Sierra shared her hopes of becoming a large animal vet, hoping to specialize in equine medicine and research. Her dedication and determination toward this goal are apparent. Aside from being a full-time student, she works with large animals at a nearby clinic.

Sierra, along with over 110,000 students in Utah, is relying on subsidized student loans to help pay for education. As a sophomore, she has time to choose whether to continue her schooling by pursuing a doctor of veterinary medicine degree, but she has worries about what a higher interest rate could mean if she decides to continue her schooling.

Education is the key to opportunity. Our public policies should make sure everyone in America has the opportunity to pursue their dream.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded not to traffic the

well while another Member is under recognition.

JOBS

(Mr. NUGENT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. NUGENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remind the United States Senate that although this country has turned a corner on the economy, there are millions of Americans who are out of work. And as we inch closer every day towards the implementation of ObamaCare, these businesses are at risk. Jobs are on the line, Mr. Speaker. Precious employment hours are on the line.

There are steps this House has taken over the last 2½ years. We have voted almost 40 times to repeal and replace ObamaCare with something special. We've passed bills here in the House for over 400 votes, and those bills to help small businesses have withered on the vine in the Senate.

So while the White House continues to stumble from scandal to scandal, it's still incumbent upon the President to show leadership as it relates to jobs. There are bills waiting for consideration in the Senate that will make a very real difference to the American people.

The House has done and will continue to do everything possible to put American people back to work, and this cannot be done alone. We need the Senate and the President to work with us, Mr. Speaker.

SEXUAL ASSAULT IN THE MILITARY

(Ms. TITUS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give voice to the thousands of men and women who have been sexually assaulted while serving their country in our Armed Forces. The Pentagon estimates that as many as 26,000 service-members were sexually assaulted last year. That's 70 assaults a day. But only 13 percent of the victims have reported the crime because of fear of retaliation.

We must establish a culture in our military that has zero tolerance for sexual assault; a culture that protects, not intimidates, victims; that prosecutes, not excuses, perpetrators; and that denounces, not ignores, sexual violence. We must make it a priority to end this unfathomable crime within our military and provide victims with the care that they need and deserve.

Next week, I will introduce the National Guard Military Sexual Trauma Parity Act to ensure that victims of sexual trauma in the National Guard also have access to the resources and services they need.